



COMMISSION ON INSURANCE

County of Los Angeles

Scott J. Svonkin
Chairperson

Daniel Falcon
Vice-Chairperson

Barry R. Binder
Glenn S. Brown
William K. Callagy
Michael G. Cheung
Helene S. Lohr, LUTCF
Curren D. Price, Jr.
Patricia Torres
Steven Vicencia

MINUTES

Meeting of May 11, 2005
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Conference Room 565
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Commissioners Present: Glenn Brown, William Callagy, Don Lee, Curren Price, Scott Svonkin, Patricia Torres

Commissioners Absent: Barry Binder, Michael Cheung, Dan Falcon,

CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of a quorum, Chairperson Svonkin called the meeting to order as a Committee of the Whole at 10:25 a.m.; at 10:35 a.m. a quorum was identified and the meeting was called to order.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Svonkin introduced and welcomed newly appointed Commissioner Glenn S. Brown, J.D., to the Commission. Commissioner Brown noted that he was appointed by Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Second District, and introduced himself. Commissioner Brown is the Chief Executive Officer of Fu-Gen, Inc. a research and investigation company that focuses on insurance: fraud, workers' compensation, and employment related issues.

Chairperson Svonkin expressed his pleasure in working with Commissioner Brown. Further, Chairperson Svonkin reviewed a brief history of issues addressed by the Commission, and Commissioner Lee noted that the Commission has recently focused on improving insurance service in underserved areas of the County.

(Commissioner Torres joined the meeting)

APPROVAL OF MARCH 24, 2005 MEETING MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Callagy, seconded by Commissioner Price and unanimously carried, the minutes of March 24, 2005 were approved.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT CONT.

Staff reported that the Board of Supervisors has not taken a position on SB -20 (Escutia): low cost automobile insurance, however, if the Commission decides to request the Board of Supervisors support, Eddie Washington, Legislative Analyst, CAO, can first asked to review a draft Board letter on the Commission's position. Commissioner Lee referenced the pros/cons of the low cost insurance program, and advised that he is not aware of anyone in the Insurance industry selling this insurance.

DISCUSS PARTICIPATION IN THE JULY ANNIVERSARY OF LOW COST AUTO INSURANCE PROGRAM

Chair Svonkin reminded the Commission that July 2005 is the Anniversary of the Low Cost Auto Insurance Program, and recommended that with the permission of Insurance Commissioner Garamendi's Office, the Commission issue a press release announcing the Program's history and details on how to obtain a low-cost automobile insurance policy.

Following discussion and no objections by Commissioners, Chair Svonkin directed staff to follow up with Commissioner Garamendi's Office on any upcoming insurance events in Los Angeles County, and for permission to issue a press release in the County.

REVIEW LEGISLATIVE BILLS TO SUPPORT

Chairperson Svonkin reviewed the following legislative bills that affect residents of Los Angeles County for recommendation to the Board of Supervisors:

AB 73 (Frommer and Chan) Prescription Drugs: To set up state website to access cost of drug services for those participating in County Health Programs: *On motion of Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Callagy and unanimously carried, the Commission will request that the Board of Supervisors support AB-73.*

AB 75 (Frommer and Chan) Pharmacy Assistance Program: *On motion of Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Callagy and unanimously carried, the Commission will request that the Board of Supervisors support AB-75.*

AB 525 (Chu) Health Care: *No Position Taken*

AB 562 (Levine) Discount Health Care: *No Position Taken*

AB 584 (Blakeslee) Seismic Safety: *No Position Taken*

AB 624 (Montanez) Healthy Families Program: *On motion of Commissioner Price, seconded by Commissioner Lee and unanimously carried, the Commission will request that the Board of Supervisors support AB-624.*

AB 909 (Koretz) Insurers: Health care service plans: Discrimination: *No position taken*

AB 1111 (Frommer) Individual Health Coverage: *No position taken*

AB 1199 (Frommer and Chan) Health Care Coverage: *No position taken*

AB 1586 (Koretz) Prevent Discrimination against Sexual/Marital Status: *No position taken*

AB 1698 (Nunez) Health Care Coverage to Kids on Policy 21-26 years: *On motion of Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Callagy and unanimously carried, the Commission will request that the Board of Supervisors support AB-1698.*

SB 23 (Migden) Enrollment in Health Families Program: *On motion of Commissioner Lee, seconded by Commissioner Price and unanimously carried, the Commission will request that the Board of Supervisors support SB-23.*

SB 300 (Kuehl) Family and Medical Leave: *No position taken*

SB 425 (Ortiz) Health Care Rate Approvals: *No position taken*

Following discussion, Chairperson Svonkin directed staff to forward a memo to the Board of Supervisors requesting their support of legislative bills approved by the Commission.

SUNSET REVIEW

Chairperson Svonkin reported that the new Sunset Review is due in December 2005. The previous Sunset Review was enclosed in the Commission mailing packets for Commissioners review and input regarding Commission accomplishments during the Sunset Review period.

Commissioner Callagy requested that staff mail Commissioner's packets earlier to ensure review of all materials.

COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE UPDATES AND PLANNING

Commissioner Callagy reported on a Workers' Compensation Federal Bill and the use of Federal ID Cards. Following discussion on the use of ID's and their impact, Chairperson Svonkin thanked Commissioner Callagy for his update.

MATTERS NOT ON POSTED AGENDA (To be placed on the agenda for discussion at a future meeting)

Chairperson Svonkin announced the recent passing of Vice Chairperson Falcon's father; staff was directed to forward a condolence letter on behalf of the Commission. Also, the following items will be placed on the July 20, 2005 Agenda: DOI report; Sunset Review; Status on Legislative Bills; and a presentation on Workers' Compensation in Los Angeles County.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Staff

Lee Millen, Executive Office, Board of Supervisors

Guests

Mary Callagy